



AND THIS, TOO, SHALL PASS AWAY

by Col. Mark Chidley
Commander, 132d Wing

I We are in uncharted times. Looking back a year ago, we were welcoming 40 Air Force Academy Cadets over April drill, preparing for our deployment to Volk Field in June 2019, and starting the first surveys for our Unit Effectiveness Capstone event in August 2019. That seems like such a long time ago. We are in the midst of a worldwide pandemic unseen since the 1918-1920 Spanish Flu. There is so much uncertainty and anxiety over the present and the future that it is hard to focus right now.

The Wing Leadership Team has been working very hard to over-communicate to everyone what we do know and what we need to find out. In the midst of this, I have been searching for some context for the events we are experiencing, as I'm sure many of you have. Looking for wise words, I googled "this too shall pass" and stumbled onto a speech that Abraham Lincoln gave to the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society in Milwaukee on September 30, 1859. It alludes to the phrase I searched for, but also expressed a greater hope that I appreciated. Below is the last paragraph of his speech:

"It is said an Eastern monarch once charged his wise men to invent him a sentence, to be ever in view, and which should be true and appropriate in all times and situations. They presented him the words: "And this, too, shall pass away." How much it expresses! How chastening in the hour of pride! -- how consoling in the depths of affliction!

"And this, too, shall pass away." And yet let us hope it is not quite true. Let us hope, rather, that by the best cultivation of the physical world, beneath and around us; and the intellectual and moral world within us, we shall secure an individual, social, and political prosperity and happiness, whose course shall be onward and upward, and which, while the earth endures, shall not pass away."

It seems entirely fitting that we not only remember that this current pandemic will pass on, but also that we Americans are charged with cultivating a better world based on our best efforts. We need to endure and persevere over this challenge we are currently facing, and we need to strengthen what is best about us and our society. This is truly an important point in our nation's history. Let us be part of making what comes next as good as it can be.

I have served my entire military career in the National Guard and it has been an honor to serve our fellow citizens in times of crisis. Over the next two to three months at a minimum, we, as members of the Iowa National Guard, will be asked to go above and beyond with our time, efforts, and sacrifices. Although social distancing rules prevent me from standing shoulder to shoulder with each of you, please know that I could not be more proud of how each of you in this Wing has stepped up to the challenge each and every time we have been asked.

What lies ahead will get worse before it gets better. Please keep the faith and remember that this too shall pass away. We are a strong group with a long history of meeting the needs of our community, state and nation, and this will be no different. Thank you for what you do!



SMITH PROMOTION

Joshua Smith, of the 132d Wing inspector general office, was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel on March 7, 2020 at the 132d Wing. Smith said he wouldn't dreamed he would go from enlisted to O-5 and that he's ready for new responsibility.



ISRG CHANGE OF COMMAND

Lt. Col. Thomas Stauffer assumed command of the 132d Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance Group from Col. Trenton Twedt, March 7, 2020. Twedt is now the ANG director of staff at Joint Force Headquarters. Stauffer is the third commander of the 132d ISRG.



Financial Literacy

by Senior Airman Katelyn Sprott
132d Wing Public Affairs

Clare Long has been instrumental in providing financial advice and briefings to COS Airmen. Long and Maj. Charles Schumacher organized briefings in which Long delivered advice ranging from improving credit and how to avoid common financial mistakes to house or car buying. Schumacher and Long both stressed that these briefings are beneficial in expanding the financial literacy for Airmen who need to obtain, and maintain, top secret (TS) clearances.

"Clare talked to the Airmen about how being financially responsible is being a good steward to our position with the Iowa Air National Guard and how not being responsible could potentially have a negative impact," said Schumacher.

Long shared her best tips to improve credit, including: knowing what's on credit reports, knowing credit limits, making a budget, utilizing the debt snowball method, and to shop around on interest rates. Long also stressed the importance of staying within a budget, stating that an overextension of a budget is one of the biggest financial mistakes she sees people make. She also stressed reaching out to an accredited financial counselor (AFC) or a certified financial planner (CFP) during times of financial stress.

"You are telling your money what you want it to do, versus it telling you what you're going to do," said Long.



CHIEF SMITH RETIREMENT

Chief Master Sgt. John Smith retired from the 132d Security Forces Squadron March 7, 2020. Smith's honorable career started with the United States Marine Corps and transitioned into the Air National Guard. His service and leadership for the unit, state and nation will be missed.



MEUNSAVENG RETIREMENT

Master Sgt. Dau Meunsaveng retired from the 132d Security Forces Squadron March 8, 2020. Meunsaveng was instrumental in providing unique training opportunities for defenders such as offensive driving and K-9 handling through the Des Moines Police Department. Meunsaveng will continue to work as a K-9 handler.

FEAR NOT

*by CH David Doty
132d Wing chaplain*

In the Amplified version of the Bible, 2 Timothy 1:7 says, "For God did not give us a spirit of timidity or cowardice or fear, but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of sound judgment and personal discipline [abilities that result in a calm, well-disciplined mind and self-control]."

In the days of COVID-19, these words need to ring clear. In this verse the Apostle Paul is reminding a young minister, Timothy (and us) that God has gifted us and empowered us with all that we need for life, no matter how difficult or dangerous life in this world may become.

As we face a time of uncertainty in our nation and in our world, we should do so with a spirit of power and not fear. Let us continue to prepare for what is to come but not overlook the blessings we have today. Don't let the fear of tomorrow outshine your life today.



LINCOLN RETIREMENT

Master Sgt. Alan Lincoln retired from the 132d Wing March 8, 2020 after 20 years of honorable service. Congratulations and thank you for your service to the unit, state and nation.



ARRIVALS

SSgt	Bunger, Russel	233 IS	28-Feb-20
A1C	Dugan, Matthew	Comm	6-Mar-20
A1C	Rewerts, Michael	SFS	7-Mar-20
A1C	Vasquez-Zelaya, Ari	232 IS	20-Mar-20
Amn	Ginter, Peter	MDG	31-Mar-20
AB	Wurst, Jarrett	Comm	21-Feb-20
AB	McGrath, Margaret	MDG	17-Mar-20

DEPARTURES

MSgt	Meunsaveng, Daobandon	SFS	14-Mar-20
MSgt	Lincoln, Alan	WG	16-Mar-20
MSgt	Thompson, Terry	ISRG	27-Mar-20
SSgt	Luse, Kaleb	OSS	29-Mar-20
SSgt	Dall, Colton	CES	4-Apr-20
A1C	Dublin, Joshua	WG	26-Mar-20

PROMOTIONS

Lt Col	Dean, Timothy	13-Mar-20
Lt Col	Howg, Erik	13-Mar-20
Lt Col	MacFarland, William	13-Mar-20
Lt Col	Witt, Joseph	13-Mar-20
Maj	Lekwa, Joseph	13-Mar-20
Capt	Pohren, Tyler	11-Mar-20
Capt	Johnston, Jacob	11-Mar-20
Capt	Johns, Joseph	18-Mar-20
Capt	Mosher, Daniel	18-Mar-20
1Lt	Smith, Benjamin	9-Mar-20
CMSgt	Timmerman, Fredrick	1-Apr-20
CMSgt	Nash, Tom	1-Apr-20
SMSgt	Johnson, Michael	15-Mar-20
MSgt	Ruszkowski, Kristopher	1-Apr-20
TSgt	Houser, Cole	15-Mar-20
SSgt	Brushaber, Jonathan	15-Mar-20
SSgt	Brinkmeier, Zachary	15-Mar-20
SrA	Cushing, Jasmine	15-Mar-20
SrA	Campbell, Samuel	1-Apr-20
A1C	Price, Stephen	1-Apr-20